

Semancik returned to Sacred Heart as pastor, a position he has held to this day.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to his exceptional efforts to guide his congregation at Sacred Heart, Monsignor Semancik also has worked extensively with Catholic Charities in Northwest Indiana. He began his mission with Catholic Charities in 1960, and was named Diocesan Director in 1962, a position he held until 1998. Under his guidance, the agency provided social services throughout the four counties that comprise Northwest Indiana and expanded to seven offices throughout the region. Monsignor Semancik has also served Catholic Charities, USA as a member of the Board of Directors, as well as serving as a member of the Study Cadre that redirected the mission of Catholic Charities. He also ably served as Chairman of various Catholic Charities's committees.

Monsignor Semancik has also enriched the Northwest Indiana community through his work in other community organizations, such as serving as the President of both the Lake County Economic Opportunity Council and the Lake County Community Development Council. He was one of the founders of the Indiana Catholic Conference and of the Hospice of the Calumet Area. He has received many commendations for his work, including the Sagamore of the Wabash Award, the highest honor bestowed by the Governor of Indiana.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating Monsignor Joseph Semancik as he celebrates the 50th anniversary of his ordination into the priesthood. Monsignor Semancik has been a fixture in Northwest Indiana throughout his career in the ministry, and he has touched the lives of many throughout the community. His unselfish and lifelong dedication to those in need is worthy of the highest commendation, and I am proud to represent him in Congress.

IN HONOR OF THE POLISH AMERICAN CONGRESS OHIO DIVISION

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2003

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Polish American Congress, Ohio Division, as they celebrate their 54th anniversary—sharing their cultural gifts along a parade route lined with food, song and joyous celebration.

On May 18, 1949, the Ohio Division of The Polish American Congress was founded. The Polish American Congress is composed of individuals of Polish ancestry as well as Polish organizations. The group serves as a unifying force for both Polish Americans and Polish citizens living in America. Taking a positive stand on issues concerning the people of Poland, the group strives to attain a free market economy within the framework of a democratic society.

The goal of The Polish American Congress is to make Americans of Polish heritage more successful U.S. citizens by encouraging them to assume the responsibilities of citizenship. In addition, the group supports fraternal, professional, religious, and civic associations dedicated to the improvement of the status of all Americans of Polish heritage.

It is evident that the Polish American Congress has played a crucial role in the Polish Community, and in its many years of service has been an invaluable contribution to the Cleveland Community.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and celebration of the Polish American Congress, as they celebrate 54 years of service to their members and to the Cleveland community.

IN HONOR OF DR. DEVARAJAN P. IYENGAR

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2003

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Devarajan P. Iyengar for his contributions to the medical field and his dedication to the people of Jersey City, Kearny, and Bayonne, New Jersey. He was honored by the Bayonne Community Cancer Support Group at Puccini's Restaurant on April 26, 2003 in Bayonne.

For over 20 years, Dr. Iyengar has dedicated himself to providing quality care for the people of Bayonne and surrounding areas. Currently director of oncology at Bayonne Medical Center and chairperson of the Transfusion and Cancer Care Committees, Dr. Iyengar has served on the staffs of Christ Hospital, Greenville Hospital and Union Hospital in Jersey City; West Hudson Hospital in Kearny; and Bayonne Medical Center since 1993. Dr. Iyengar is committed to providing a level of care that goes beyond the average standard of health care. He recently helped found the Bayonne Community Cancer Support Group and is well known for taking the time to provide additional support for his patients and their families.

Dr. Iyengar earned his degree in medicine from the University in Baroda, India and completed his residency at the University of Medicine and Dentistry in New Jersey. After finishing his fellowship in oncology and hematology at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center, he was a research associate and later an attending physician for Newark Beth Israel. Dr. Iyengar is a fellow at the Academy of Medicine of New Jersey and a member of the American Society of Breast Disease.

Dr. Iyengar and his wife, Dr. Rekha Iyengar, a radiation oncologist, have three sons, Arjun, Ashwin and Arvind.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. Devarajan P. Iyengar for his years of service and dedication to the medical community and to the people of New Jersey.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SONOMA VALLEY CHORALE

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2003

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Sonoma Valley Chorale as this organization celebrates its 30th anniversary.

The Sonoma Valley Chorale was founded in 1973 by Jim Griewe. It's first performance space was in the Pioneer Chapel of the First Congregational Church of Sonoma. As the membership grew, the Chorale relocated, first to St. Francis Solano Church and finally to the Veterans' Memorial Building.

Sonoma Valley Chorale, Inc. has a member-administered Board of Directors and serves as an umbrella organization for the 130 voice Choral, Chamber Ensemble, Orchestra, Sonoma Valley Children's Chorus and for community programs promoting small ensemble performances.

During its 30 year history, the Chorale has received many musical honors and has toured France, Italy, the United Kingdom and the New England states. The Chorale was featured during both the 10th anniversary concert series of the Napa Valley Symphony and the 50th anniversary concert gala of the Santa Rosa Symphony.

Guest conductors have included world renowned composer-conductor Jester Hariston. In 2000 the Chorale performed the world premier of "Come Life, Shaker Life" by American composer Gwyneth Walker. This work was commissioned by and composed specifically for the Sonoma Valley Chorale and its music director, Jim Griewe.

The Chorale's repertoire ranges from 1100 AD to the present and spans musical genres from Gregorian chants to Broadway show tunes.

Mr. Speaker, the Sonoma Valley Chorale is an integral part of the cultural landscape of the First Congressional District and a true treasure for the people of the Sonoma Valley. It is therefore appropriate that we acknowledge and honor the Sonoma Valley Chorale, its founder and director Jim Griewe, and the hundreds of voices who have contributed to the legacy and success of this organization.

HONORING HERBERT ADAMS

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2003

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a distinguished veteran of our armed forces, Herbert Adams.

Mr. Adams served our nation as a member of the United States Army where he was awarded numerous medals for his distinguished service on the battlefield. Following his service in World War Two, the governments of Belgium and the Netherlands recognized Mr. Adams' role in freeing those nations from the Nazi regime.

In addition to the European medals awarded to Mr. Adams, he received numerous American medals including the Purple Heart; the Bronze Star; the Combat Infantry Badge; the Army Occupation with German Clasp; the Honorable Service Lapel Button for World War Two; and the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with four Bronze Service Stars.

I am grateful for Mr. Adams' service. He distinguished himself on the battlefield through bravery, strength, and commitment to the American cause of ridding Europe of the Nazi menace.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my sincere thanks to Mr. Adams for bravely fighting in defense of